

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE UAW

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, many of us are honoring Mr. Ron Gettelfinger whose second term as president of the United Auto Workers (UAW) is coming to a close. I would like to add my thanks to Mr. Gettelfinger for his service to this important American institution.

Rising through the ranks from local UAW leadership to president, Mr. Gettelfinger has stood at the helm of the UAW during one of our nation's most tumultuous economic periods. Mr. Gettelfinger first joined the UAW as a chassis line repairman in Louisville, Kentucky, and, over his 44 years with the organization, he has seen many changes in the American automobile industry.

Still now, as when it began, the United Auto Workers continues its nearly 80 year fight on behalf of this nation's workers. The UAW seeks to ensure that all of America's workers are rewarded for their contribution to our country's economy and continue to live their lives in dignity.

I commend Mr. Gettelfinger for his contribution to the UAW's important work.

REMEMBERING DIANNE WALLER- NYMAN

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the life of Dianne Waller-Nyman. Dianne passed away on June 11th after a long bout with cancer. Dianne was a dedicated public servant, a longtime political activist, and a dear friend whom we will miss dearly.

Dianne was a pioneer in many of her endeavors. She was the first woman to serve as a regional manager with the Handy Andy chain of hardware stores. Dianne was also the youngest person ever elected as a Trustee of Park Forest South, Illinois (later known as University Park).

For those of us who knew Dianne, one of her most admirable traits was the passion with which she pursued causes she believed in. For several decades, Dianne was active in local politics and government. She served several terms on the Park Forest South/University Park Board of Trustees and over the years Dianne managed or volunteered for dozens of campaigns at the federal, State, and local levels. She was proud to be a very early supporter of now President Obama when he ran

for the U.S. Senate in 2004. Even as Dianne battled cancer towards the end of her life, she continued to play a leadership role in local political organizations.

I can also say that I would not be serving as a Member of Congress today without Dianne's tireless efforts on my behalf. We often referred to Dianne as the "Sergeant Major" because we knew we could count on her to get the job done.

Dianne is survived by her loving husband, Arnie, three children—Ron Waller, Edie Fortner, and Diana Tomsic, and five grandchildren—Nick, Matt, Phillip, Richie, and Kal. My thoughts and prayers are with them in this time of loss. We share their sorrow, but we join them in honoring the remarkable life of Dianne Waller-Nyman.

ODE TO A FALLEN HERO: SERGEANT JOSHUA HARDT

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of U.S. Army Sergeant Joshua Hardt of Applegate, California. Today, I read a poem, written in Sergeant Hardt's memory, which serves as a testament to both his character and fidelity.

ODE TO A FALLEN HERO

(By Ting De Guevara)

No one asked you to volunteer
You did it because you loved your country
More than pure piney woods,
More than sparkling, high mountain lakes
Or the sauntering, Sierra streams
The possibilities were endless
A police officer, a federal marshal, a wife and family

Perhaps a fishing guide, for the flatlanders
Who only dreamed of finding rainbows in the eddies

Instead, you answered the call of duty

Not for money, nor glory, nor fame

But because you wanted to make

A difference in the world

You traded your Carhartts

For Army green, gilded buttons,

Spit and shine

Your boyish smile

The twinkle in your eye

Betrayed who we really knew

Our jovial, jaunting, Joshy

Your country called you

Like a far-away alarm,

In the foggy dream of yesterday

Fighting your way through Iraq

Returning quieter, somber and more patient

Knowing those things that only soldiers know,

The sounds and horrors of war

Still, your passion for fishing and golf

Was unquenchable,

Displaying your catch and taunting:

"Where's your Troutzilla?"

Oh you scoundrel! You rogue!

How we envied your hole-in-one luck, your trout madness

And your contagious laughter

Filled our hearts, refreshing

Like a cold bottle of beer

On a hot summer's day

Then Uncle Sam pinned those stripes on your sleeve

Sending you to a strange and foreign land

Where women and children were forced

To surrender their last vestige of freedom

There, in the frozen mountains

In those smoke filled hours

The tracers flying, rockets exploding

Amid the trees like a firestorm

You fought bravely

My courageous son,

Even as the world collapsed around you

You remained steadfast

To your men and your flag

You may stand down, Sergeant Hardt

Your tour is over,

Your mission completed,

We love you

God bless you

Farewell, our fallen hero.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SANTO SCARPINITO AND LINDA SKIDMORE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Santo Scarpinito and Linda Skidmore, who are retiring from the Northport-East Northport School District this year.

Together, Santo and Linda have contributed more than 65 years of service to the school district and have educated thousands of teachers and students in civic responsibility. They are both founding members of Project PATCH, which is a nationally recognized law and civic education program. Santo and Linda have shown creativity and passion throughout their years as teachers and are an integral force in educating the public about issues in constitutional law and professional development.

As they leave behind their formal roles in the Northport-East Northport School District, they will no doubt continue to educate those within their communities on the values that are so important to Americans.

I am proud to recognize Santo Scarpinito and Linda Skidmore for their invaluable contribution to education.

RECOGNIZING LYNN AZZOPARDI

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Lynn Azzopardi for her work with the Millbrae Lions Club. She has been such a tireless volunteer for the past seven and one-half years that some may find it hard to believe that she also works full-time as the administrative assistant in the Kidney Transplant division

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